

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 7 are amended. New claims 10-15 are added above. As to the new claims, see, e.g., Applicants' Fig. 2 and Applicants' specification at page 4, lines 17-19; page 7, lines 3-4; page 9, line 24+ onto page 10; page 27, lines 5-7. As to new claim 15, see also Fig. 12, S80; Fig. 13, S106; Fig. 14, S216; Fig. 15, S236.

Claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto (U.S. 2002/0039116) in view of Moro (U.S. 6,327,051) and further in view of Matsumoto (U.S. 5,835,765) (newly cited).¹ Claim 7 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto in view of Moro, Seshimo, and Matsumoto.²

Applicants respectfully traverse these obviousness rejections.

In claim 1, one of the error recovery methods is set for each of a plurality of print continuation error categories, the error recovery methods including an automatic print continuation and a recovery by user's operation. In other words, in the invention recited in claim 1, a user can set one of the automatic print continuation and the recovery by user's operation for each print continuation error category in advance.

Neither Hashimoto nor Moro discloses the above features. For example, at column 26, lines 25-45 and Fig. 41 of Moro, the "Stop" button and the "Continue" button are displayed and pressed by the user when the size of the placed paper does not agree with the set paper size. However, that description of Moro discloses only the recovery by the user's operation, not the automatic print continuation.

Further, the Examiner asserts at page 5 of the office action that the setting unit, specifically, the input of the recovery conditions by the user is disclosed at column 3, lines 40-50 of Matsumoto.

Matsumoto discloses at column 15, lines 35-42 that the measures implemented when an error occurs in one of the executing application programs include: do nothing,

¹Claims 2 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto in view of Moro, Matsumoto, Seshimo (U.S. 6,971,732) and Kageyama (U.S. 6,504,619).

²Claims 8 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto in view of Moro, Seshimo, Matsumoto, and Kitagawa (U.S. 5,799,206).

forced end, and an error recovery procedure. However, Matsumoto does not disclose that the error is the print continuation error. Further, neither "do nothing," "forced end," nor "an error recovery procedure" correspond to the recovery by user's operation recited in claim 1. Further, Matsumoto relates to an application program, not to a printer.

As explained above, it is not possible to combine Hashimoto, Moro, and Matsumoto. Even if they are combined, the invention recited in claim 1 is not reached because the references only disclose one of the automatic print continuation and the recovery by user's operation.

For relative brevity, we do not remark separately for the other claims, and for the same reasons as above, the assumptions underlying the obviousness rejections of those claims also cannot stand.


Reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejections are respectfully sought.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 1-15 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,



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